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BUTTE FALLS

A History of its City Government
Since Incorporation in 1911

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May 1960
History of the Pacific N.W.
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Introduction

This paper was written with the intention of giving a general overall view of the city government of Butte Falls since 1911. Because this covers much material, it was impossible to cover every phase and part of the history. This paper attempts to bring forth the more important and interesting aspects of the improvements made in Butte Falls.

Most of the material gathered for this paper came from unpublished minutes of meetings, interview, and charters. The Medford Mail Tribune was consulted, but did not contain anything pertaining to this type of history(at least nothing that could be found). The minutes of the meetings are direct copies from the record books found in the City Hall at Butte Falls. Also found here is the town charter which is copied in outline form. The abstract was used because it gave some important dates pertaining to development before 1911.

It is hoped that this paper serves its purpose by filling in another part of the history of the pacific northwest.

OUTLINE

I. Introduction

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¹Arnold, Edwin, "Belle Falls, A History of the City and the Lumber Industry," (Unpublished town paper, Eastern Oregon College, Astoria, Oregon, 1931), p. 1

²Ibid., p. 1

³Ibid., p. 1

The town of Butte Falls, incorporated in August 1911, has since had an interesting history of city government. The many elected officials (mayor, recorder, treasurer, and six councilmen) have all played their part in developing the town; passing ordinances, putting in a light and water system, and helping with overall improvement of the town whenever it was needed. Along with these elected officials, the town marshal established law and order, and the pound master performed his duties in keeping the town clean. Also, a city attorney, city street commissioner, and a city health officer have added their services to the town.

Before 1911 and its incorporation, the town of Butte Falls (Named after a falls in Big Butte Creek) was considered a booming "industrial" area with a very prosperous future. Probably the greatest attraction to the area was the illustrious virgin timber, and the possibility of its production. Consequently, in 1906 the Butte Falls Sugar Pine Company was built at the falls in Big Butte Creek.¹ However, due to bad luck, this company was declared bankrupt in 1907, and the Butte Falls Lumber Company took over.² Before it collapsed, the Sugar Pine Company in 1906 gave to the people the land that is now Butte Falls.³ In that same year a man by the name of Bert Harris mapped out the town with the city park in

¹Arnold, Edwin, "Butte Falls, A History of the City and the Lumber Industry," (Unpublished term paper, Southern Oregon College, Ashland, Oregon, 1951), p. 1

²See Appendix G

³Arnold, p. 1

the center.⁴ Mr. Harris who later helped with the building of the Grade School in 1908, patterned the town after his hometown in Harvard, Illinois(also the original home of Mrs. A.E. Edmondson).⁵

Also, of great importance in bringing people to the area was the completion of the Pacific and Eastern Railroad to Butte Falls in 1910. This railroad held regular passenger service from 1912 to 1916, and was eventually destined to connect with Klamath Falls. However, this plan failed to materialize.⁶ Other constructions of importance before 1911 were the completion of the Grade School in 1908, the chartering of the Pine, Belt Banking Company in 1907,⁷ and the building of the large U.S. Hotel.

With this booming business, some of the people of Butte Falls in 1911 decided to incorporate the town. A committee composed of F. Carson, J. Cadzow, M. Baker, R. Baker and N.B. Stoddard drew up their intentions and submitted them to the people who favored incorporation. However, the Butte Falls Lumber Company opposed incorporation because of the possibility of increased taxes. Consequently, the committee and the Lumber Company fought it out with their attorneys in a court at Medford. The committee won, so the town was incorporated in August 1911.⁸

Upon its incorporation, the people immediately selected

⁴See Appendix F

⁵See Appendix E, p. 1

⁶Arnold, p. 2

⁷See Appendix G

⁸See Appendix F

a mayor, recorder, and six councilmen with the treasurer being selected later. The first mayor of Butte Falls was Edgar E. Smith (the father of Ernest Smith, present city treasurer), and the first recorder was A.L. Marcy. Along with the six councilmen; J.T. Carson, E.H. Watson, A.M. Wheeler, H.B. Dodd, C. Obenchain, and A.M. Ford they held their first meeting in Mr. Carsons barber shop on August 11, 1911.⁹

After the first officials of the town were elected the city attorney, Porter Neff, started composing the Charter for the Town of Butte Falls. It was presented to the council and then submitted to the voters in November 1911. It passed with a vote of 35 yes and 5 no.¹⁰

The town charter defined the elected and appointed city officials as to their powers and duties, the election procedures, the bonds and warrants, the streets, sewers, and water-main rights, the assessments, and the miscellaneous items.

The city officials take the following oath of office;

"I do solemnly swear that I will defend and support the constitution of the United States, the constitution and laws of the State of Oregon, and the Charter and Ordinances of the Town of Butte Falls, and perform the duties of the office to which I am elected to the best of my knowledge and ability--I will."¹¹

The mayor has certain duties and powers such as supervising the towns affairs and all the officers and employees of the town with the exception of the council. He presides over the meetings, but does not vote unless there is a tie.

⁹See Appendix A

¹⁰Minutes of the Town Council Meetings, Butte Falls, Oregon, August 1911 to April 1960

¹¹Ibid., inside cover

Also, he can call special meetings, appoint committee members, and veto or sign an ordinance within five days after its passage by the council.

The town council has many powers and duties as defined in the town charter. Some of the more important powers are passing ordinances, borrowing money, levying taxes, establishing a fire department, improving the city (city buildings, streets, water, etc.), restraining gambling, drinking and vagrancy, and selling real estate.

Another elected town official is the city recorder who has the judicial powers thereby collecting fines. He, also keeps records of the town councils proceedings, and issues warrants to the treasurer for the payment of the numerous bills.

The treasurer upon receiving the warrants, makes out the checks for the amount, and sees that the proper people receive them. Besides this the treasurer receives money and records all the receipts and expenditures, and deposits money in the bank designated by the town council.

Finally, the last official designated in the town charter is the appointed office of town marshall. It is the marshall's duty to arrest and jail disorderly people, to act as Sergeant of Arms if necessary at the council meetings, and any other duties designated by the town council.¹²

The town charter also provides for several other important items.⁸ It states that the elections shall be held not less than 15 days prior to the Tuesday after the first Monday

¹²See Appendix C pages 3 and 4

in December with 3 election judges presiding. The new council takes their office on the 2nd Tuesday in January. Also, the charter provides for building watermains, issuing bonds and warrants, borrowing money and supervising other miscellaneous things.¹³

Since 1911 there have been several mayors. The following is the list of mayors and the type work each was engaged in while living in Butte Falls.¹⁴

1911-E.E. Smith(General Store)	1939-A.E. Edmondson(Logger)
1912-E.H. Watson(Carpenter)	1943-F.M. Kincaide(Farmer, Logger)
1916-Rod Baker(Logger)	1945-Johnny Henshaw(Forest Service)
1918-H.D. Mills(Manager B.F. Lumber Co.)	
1919-B.F. Morris(Janitor)	1949-F.M. Kincaide(Farmer, Logger)
1920-N.B. Stoddard(Hardware Store)	1950-O.R. Abbott(Logger)
1923-N.B. Hildreth(Carpenter)	1951-A. Hartelrode(Logger)
1925-Ralph Coleman(Garage)	1953-F.E. Poole(Logger)
1927-C.W. Jackson(Logger)	1957-O.R. Abbott(Logger)
1929-E. Hoef(Logger)	1959-Elga Abbott(Logger)
1934-O.N. Goss(farmer)	

The following is a list of all the town officials since 1911, showing the replacements for resignations and elections. If there are any blanks, the information could not be obtained.¹⁵

¹³See Appendix C pages 5 and 6

¹⁴See Appendix E page 2

¹⁵Minutes of the Town Council Meetings, Butte Falls, Oregon, August 1911 to May 1960

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Members of Butte Falls Council Since 1911

1911

Mayor-- E.E. Smith
Recorder-- A.L. Marcy (Ira Tungate)
Treasurer--
Councilmen--
 J.F. Carson
 E.H. Watson
 A.M. Wheeler
City Engineer-- Ernest Smith
City Attorney-- Porter Neff
City Marshall-- N.S. Erie (U.S. Morris)

H.B. Dodd
C. Obenchain
A.M. Ford

1912

Mayor-- E.H. Watson
Recorder-- Ira Tungate
Treasurer-- E.E. Smith
Councilmen--
 A.M. Ford (C.A. Edmondson)
 Dooms (J.R. Barrett-Cadzow)
 C. Obenchain (Cleavenger)
City Attorney-- Hanna
= Marshall-- Ira Tungate

F. Carson
H.B. Dodd (N.B. Stoddard)
A.M. Wheeler

1914

Mayor-- E.H. Watson
Recorder-- R.B. Baker (O.B. Morris)
Treasurer-- E.E. Smith
Councilmen--
 C.A. Edmondson
 N.B. Stoddard (H. Boughton-J.P. Hughes)
 J.F. Carson (N.B. Stoddard)
Pound Master-- E.A. Hildreth
Marshall-- O.W. Train

S.M. Cleavenger
W.S. Kee
A.M. Wheeler

1916

Mayor-- Roderick Baker
Recorder-- Ray Parker (John Cadzow)
Treasurer-- E.E. Smith (E.H. Watson)
Councilmen--
 *H.D. Mills
 Ray E. Spencer
 C.A. Edmondson
Attorney-- Porter Neff

A.M. Wheeler (J.F. Carson)
M.P. Baker
J.P. Hughes

1918

Mayor-- H.D. Mills (B.F. Morris)
Recorder-- J.E. Day
Treasurer-- Stella Fouts (F.O. Ahlatrom-N.B. Stoddard)
Councilmen--
 *Ira Tungate
 A.E. Hildreth (J.P. Hughes)
 F.O. Ahlatrom (M. Brainard)

E. Hoef (John Cadzow)
N.B. Stoddard (C.A. Edmondson)
C.E. Power (W.W. Parker)

* Chairmen of the council

1920

Mayor-- N.B. Stoddard
Recorder-- J.E. Day
Treasurer-- N.B. Stoddard
Councilmen--

Ira Tungate
*J.P. Hughes
J. Cadzow

A.E. Edmondson
N.B. Hildreth
W.W. Parker

1922

Mayor-- N.B. Stoddard
Recorder-- J.E. Day (W.R. Parker)
Treasurer-- Ira Tungate(J.E. Day)
Councilmen--

J.P. Hughes
A.E. Hildreth
N.B. Hildreth(A.E. Edmondson)
Marshall-- J. Grimsley

J. Cadzow
W. Parker
J.I. Patton

1923

Mayor-- N.B. Hildreth
Recorder-- J.J. Simerville
Treasurer--
Councilmen--

M.P. Baker
J.P. Hughes
J.I. Patton

John Clark
E.A. Hildreth
E. Hoef

1925

Mayor-- Ralph M. Coleman(E. Hoef)
Recorder-- C. Hawkins(A.M. Ford-R.B. Baker-Slim Palmer)
Treasurer-- E.A. Hildreth(held position until 1951)
Councilmen--

J.R. Clark
A.E. Abbott(R.B. Baker)
J.L. Casey(E.H. Carter*)
Marshall--Jas Obern(H. Compton-B. Yigsby-W. Driskell)

R. Wymore(Wm Holloway)
J.I. Patton
E. Hoefs

1927

Mayor-- C.W. Jackson
Recorder-- Slim Palmer
Councilmen--

*E. Hoefs
E.H. Carter
John Clark

F.R. Wymore
J.I. Patton
R.E. Edmondson

1929

Mayor-- R.B. Baker(could not qualify--E. Hoef)
Recorder-- Claude Magee
Councilmen--
 H. Geppart
 M.J. Brainard(R.B. Baker)
 Ray Spencer(Guy Moore)
 R.E. Edmondson
 F.R. Wymore
 E. Hoef
Marshall-- C. Ellis(E. Hoover-H. Netherland)
Pound Master--Chet Ellis(B.F. Hilkey)

1931

Mayor-- E. Hoef
Recorder-- C.R. Magee(Ray Parker)
Councilmen--
 R.H. Hibbard(R.E. Edmondson)
 Horace Geppart(O.M. Goss)
 M.J. Brainard
 R.E. Edmondson(E. Abbott)
 C.W. Jackson(Guy Moore)
 *R.B. Baker
Pound Master-- Bert Jones
Marshall-- H. Netherland

1933

Mayor-- E. Hoef(O.M. Goss)
Recorder-- J.S. Smith
Councilmen--
 Ernest Abbott
 Charles Hendrick
 *O.M. Goss(Geo Margreiter)
 A.E. Abbott(L. Moore)
 R. Baker(A.E. Edmondson*)
 G. Moore(H. Geppart-M. Pool)
Marshall-- H. Netherland
Attorney-- Otto Frohmayer

1935

Mayor-- O.M. Goss
Recorder-- J.S. Smith
Councilmen--
 *A.E. Edmondson(G. Moore)
 Chas Hendrick(R. Edmondson)
 L. Moore
 *F.E. Pool
 L.G. Palmer
 Cecil Kings(H. Geppart)
Marshall-- C. Hendrick(O. Hilkey)

1937

Mayor-- O.M. Goss
Recorder-- J.S. Smith (L.C. Richman)
Councilmen--
 *G. Moore
 L. Moore
 H. Geppart
 Don Smith
 R. Edmondson
 Todd Whaley
Marshall-- Thomas Hodson(Frank Lafalde)

1939

Mayor-- A.E. Edmondson
Recorder-- L.C. Richman
Councilmen--
 Robert Coffman
 Orb Abbott
 Guy Moore
 Ernest Smith
 Jack Tungate
 Don Smith

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1941

Mayor-- A.E. Edmondson

Recorder-- O.R. Abbott

Councilmen--

Guy Moore(Elmer Hinkle)

Ernest Smith

Les Casey(Frank Dunlap)

Emmett Gott(R. Coffman)

Frank Edmondson(R. Edmondson)

Jack Stowell

1943

Mayor-- F.M. Kincaide

Recorder-- Beulah Abbott(Orb Abbott)

Councilmen--

R. Edmondson(A.E. Edmondson)

*Ernest Smith

T. Whaley(L. Geppart-H. Kent)

City Fire Chief-- O.M. Goss

El Hinkle(L. Richman-E. Abbott)

Harry Lowe

Alva Webster

1945

Mayor-- Johnny Henshaw(A.E. Edmondson)

Recorder-- Liola Edmondson(Kizzie Edmondson Sept. 27, to present)

Councilmen--

A.E. Edmondson(B. Facey)

Elga Abbott(H. Bradford)

Ernest Smith

Don Smith

H. Kent(R. Coffman)

Percy O'Neil(R. Walker-

Ken Edmondson)

Marshall--H. Nahas(F. Pool-E. Abbott-E. Dorf-Carl Blair)

1947

Mayor-- A.E. Edmondson(Fred Wirth)

Councilmen--

*Keith Scott

*Elga Abbott(F.E. Poole)

B. Facey(T. Rambo-Wm Hughes-

Don Smith-Fred Wirth)

K. Edmondson(A. Price-R. Arent)

Carl Blair(John Holst)

H. Bradford(Ray Davis)

Marshall- Ivan Boyd(Brownrigg-J. Tungate)

1949

Mayor-- Fred Wirth(Fred Kincaide-O.R. Abbott)

Councilmen--

Roscoe Arent

Keith Scott

C. C.P. Blair(Orb Abbott)

Health Officer-- O.R. Abbott

Marshall-- Corbett Smith

F.E. Poole

Irvin Boyd(Clay Conley)

*John Holst(R. Coffman)

1951

Mayor-- Al Hartelrode

Treasurer-- Ernest Smith(November 8, 1951 to the present)

Councilmen--

*R. Edmondson(F. Edmondson)

L. Casey(O. Abbott-E. Tedrick-Wm Norling)

E.A. Dorf(Keith Scott)

Marshall-- E.A. Dorf(Irving Bahler)

G. Harper(A.R. Seizmore)

F.E. Poole

Rodger Harris

1953

Mayor-- F.E. Poole	
Councilmen--	
*Lloyd Tungate	A.R. Seizemore(B. Pingle)
Lester Ryel(Chas Ferguson)	John Henshaw
Keith Scott	John Shievely(Rodger Harris)

1955

Mayor-- F.E. Poole	
Councilmen--	
C. Curtis	C. Ferguson
Lo Tungate(Gordon Walker)	*B. Pingle
Ke Keith Scott(Wm Norling)	John Henshaw(Knute Ellefson)
Marshall-- Roy Green(Dave Smith)	

1957

Mayor-- O.R. Abbott	
Councilmen--	
*Henry Davis(L. Casey-B. Rodgers)	Bruce Pingle
Elga Abbott	Page Stauffer(Bill Harris)
Gordon Walker(Bob Driskell)	K. Ellefson(B. Facey)

1959

Mayor-- Elga Abbott	
Recorder-- Kizzie Edmondson	
Treasurer-- Ernest Smith	
Councilmen--	
*O.R. Abbott	Bill Rodgers
Bruce Pingle	Burrell Facey
Robert Driskell	Don Smith(Red Capello)
Marshall-- Ted Reddell(Don Smith)	

Many accomplishments have been made by the town council since the town was incorporated in 1911. When the council decided it needed an ordinance, they immediately had the city attorney draft the necessary papers. If the ordinance was immediately needed, then the council voted on it with three readings in one evening, and 15 minute breaks between meetings. Normally the ordinance was read and voted on at three consecutive meetings¹⁶ then submitted to the mayor for his signature or veto within the five day limit.¹⁷

Ordinances were passed for many things such as restricting cattle and chickens running at large, posting speed limits, borrowing money with bonds, and many other things the council thought necessary. The following is an example of an ordinance passed on January 9th, 1926 for the purpose of restricting vehicles and stock on the town walks.

¹⁶ See Appendix E page 1
¹⁷ See Appendix C page 3

An Example of a Town Ordinance

Ordinance #48

An ordinance making it unlawful to drive certain stock and vehicles upon or across certain walks in Butte Falls.

The town of Butte Falls doth ordain as follows:

Sec. I--It shall be unlawful upon and after passage and adoption of this Ordinance, for any person or persons to ride, lead or drive any horses or mules, or drive or cause to be driven any wagon, hack, buggy or sled, or any motor vehicles, or engine, upon or across any public sidewalk within the town limits of Butte Falls, except such walks as are designated for, and used as such crossings at street or alley intersections.

In all other cases, persons desiring a crossing place, must first build such crossing as in the opinion of the council will protect such walk and safeguard the public.

Sec. II--Any person or persons found guilty of violating any of the provisions of this ordinance, shall upon conviction thereof before the town recorder be fined not less than five dollars(\$5) nor more than twenty-five dollars(\$25) or be confined within the town jail of Butte Falls, one day for each two dollars(\$2) of such fine remaining unpaid.

Sec. III--All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Inasmuch as it is necessary that this ordinance become effective immediately, that the towns walks may be protected, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this ordinance shall be in full effect upon and after its passage and adoption by council.

Passed and adopted by the town council of Butte Falls in regular session on January 9th 1926 by the following vote:

Unanimous

Attest

Approved

W. M. Ford

E. Hoef

Recorder

Mayor

Several committees, formed by council members, have existed through the years. The six most important committees include street and alley, water and fire, finance, sidewalk, sanitation, and park and cemetery.

The street and alley committee has done much to improve the town. The city charter provides for money from property owners whose frontage is along the streets to improve their streets. At first all the streets were simply dirt or gravel, with money being appropriated several times for their improvement. On May 13, 1922 the council gave permission to the county to build a road through town with the town paying for the drainage. On August 14, 1923 the city borrowed money to gravel the streets and crosswalks with Wm Vonderhelen doing the work. These and other improvements along with ordinances regulating the streets and alleys have been made.¹⁸ Today some of the streets are being paved with the funds received from the State Highway Commission.

The water and fire committee is a very important group. They were responsible for getting the water rights in 1911-1912, beating their rivals by only two hours.¹⁹ On May 27, 1912 the council started planning the water work system, and C.A. Cochran bid \$9427.00 to complete it in 120 days. The town council regulated the water rent which started at 75¢ per month and is now \$3.00 per month. Ordinances, also, have been passed regulating water and punishing delinquent

¹⁸Minutes of the Town Council Meetings, Butte Falls, Oregon, August 1911 to May 1960

¹⁹See Appendix F

water users. On May 9, 1928 the city decided to furnish water for the High School swimming pool at \$200.00 a year, but this plan failed to materialize. Later, money was spent on improving the water reservoir and water system throughout the city.

The council decided early to establish fire protection. On October 7, 1912 the city purchased 660 ft. of hose, one hose cart, and two nozzles from the A.G. Long Co. of Portland. On April 23, 1929 a new fire siren was bought by the city, and on March 25, 1937 the city purchased some "Superior Brand" fire hose from the Eureka Fire Hose Company. On January 22, 1948, \$1200 was appropriated to buy a fire truck from the city of Medford which is still in use today.²⁰ The city depends on voluntary fire protection, but has put in a fire hydrant system and has built a building to house its fire equipment.

The next committee deals with the finances; the budget and the tax program. This committee helps make the budget which is presented to the budget committee early in March which in turn revises, discusses, and submits it to the voters. The budget committee consists of six members with two being elected each year.²¹ An example of the expenses and receipts is as follows; November 12, 1927

total expenses--	\$3446.00
total receipts--	<u>\$1500.00</u>
paid by taxpayers--	\$2246.00

The other duty of the finance committee deals with taxes which is a property tax. At various times the tax levy has

²⁰Minutes of the Town Council Meetings, Butte Falls, Oregon, August 1911 to May 1960

²¹See Appendix E page 1

been increased such as on November 19, 1923 it was voted to raise the tax levy from 20 to 35 mills. This increase in taxes helps pay for city buildings such as the new city hall.²²

Another committee is the sidewalk committee which has tried to keep the sidewalks repaired in the city. At first there were only board walks which had to be constantly maintained by the property owners at the suggestion of the council. Now many of the sidewalks are made of concrete.

The sanitation committee has dealt with the cleaning-up of the city and keeping it in respectable condition. At various times council has had to condemn certain run-down places, and pass ordinances to prohibit unnecessary filth. This committee also has dealt with several epidemics, such as on February 26, 1920 when council decided to stop all public gatherings and quarantine the town due to influenza.²³

The last committee deals with the park and cemetery. The city park has been maintained by the council; seeding, removing trees, building, cleaning, etc. Also, the cemetery has been maintained by the city council. On November 6, 1916 Butte Falls received the deed for the cemetery property which F.G. Owen recorded in Jacksonville.²⁴

Besides the work of these committees, the town council has accomplished several other important things. A jail house was built in 1914. On September 7th of that year Geo W. Barker was given a warrant for \$666.66 for its construction.

²²Minutes of the Town Council Meetings, Butte Falls, Oregon, August 1911 to May 1960

²³Ibid.

²⁴Ibid.

A fence was built around the town in 1939 while A.E. Edmondson was mayor. It was to prevent cattle and other livestock from running at large in the city.

Other things of interest were a dog and cattle pound built early in Butte Falls, a telephone and telegraph line granted by council on October 23, 1911, and a discussion of a license to run a bus between Medford and Butte Falls on May 26, 1919. On October 26, 1920 a library board was established with a librarian and several committeemen. The council, also, early started licensing businesses in the town with an ordinance establishing the costs for different types of businesses. Also, an ordinance was passed to tax peddlers and theaters. Council set up a curfew with the first recorded one on March 27, 1947. Children under 18 years of age were to be off the streets by 9:30 P.M. On July 13, 1950 the Town of Butte Falls joined the League of Oregon Cities. Finally, during the time of war the town helped by establishing rules for air raid warnings on May 18, 1942, and letting the U.S. Army use the city premises effective June 10, 1943. On January 24, 1957 an Air Base Post was established at Butte Falls.²⁵

Looking back over the years since 1911, one can notice the improvements made by the work of the town council, and the other town officials. A water system has been built; streets have been improved; electric lights have been installed; and fire protection has been improved. These along with numerous other accomplishments can be attributed to the city government of Butte Falls, Oregon.

²⁵Minutes of the Town Council Meetings, August 1911 to May 1960

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The First Recorded Meeting of the Town Council of Butte Falls

Butte Falls, Oregon, August 11, 1911

The first meeting of the Butte Falls Common Council was held in Mr. Carsons barber shop on August 11, 1911.

The meeting was called to order by the mayor.

Roll call showed all Alderman present except Mr. Dodd.

The subject came up as to where the Council should meet and it was decided to see what rent Mr. Cadzow would take for the hall over his store. A Committee of two was appointed to see Mr. Cadzow consisting of Mr. Obenchain and Mr. Watson which resulted in Mr. Cadzow coming to the meeting. After a short discussion he agreed, for the consideration of one dollar per evening to furnish fire and oil and do the janitor work.

Acceptance of Ordinance No. 1 providing for a time and place of meeting. Mr. Cadzows hall was chosen as place and 7:30 P.M. as the time on the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

Ordinance No. 2 to fix bonds for Treasurer, Recorder, and Marshall which are as follows:

Sec. 1 Treasurer--\$500 Sec. 2 Recorder--\$200

Sec. 3 Marshall--\$200

Committees appointed. Ordinance Committee Mr. Ford, Chairman Mr. Watson and Mr. Carson.

Suggestion made that the Mayor appoint such other committees as he thought best and report at next meeting. Also that he adopt a rule for procedure.

All business finished motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

A. L. Marcy--Recorder

An Example of a Present Day Council Meeting

April 28, 1960

Meeting called to order by Mayor Elga Abbott at 25 min. to 8 P.M.

Roll call all present except O.R. Abbott and Robt. Driskell.

On motion duly made sec, and carried minutes be approved
as read.

No bills.

On motion duly made sec. and carried that Medford Corporation be paid for gravel \$891.00.

On motion duly made sec. and carried meeting adjourn.

Signed

Kizzie Edmondson

City Recorder

An Act to provide a charter for the Town of Butte Falls Jackson
County, Oregon

Be it enacted by the people of the Town of Butte Falls

Chapter 1

Corporate Powers

Section 1. The Municipal Corporation now existing and know as Town of Butte Falls shall remain and continue a body politic and corporate by the name of Town of Butte Falls and by that name shall have perpetual succession and may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in all the Courts of Justice and in all actions suits or proceedings whatever; may use a common seal, and may alter the same at pleasure; may purchase, or acquire by the exercise of the right of eminent domain, receive and hold property, both real and personal within and without the corporate limits for municipal purposes or for any of the purposes of the same, or contract with relation thereto for the benefit of the town, or in pursuance of the powers in this act granted; and may exercise police power, all the powers usual and necessary for municipal corporations and all the powers hereinafter enumerated or necessarily implied.

Section 2. The present existing geographical boundaries of said town of Butte Falls shall be maintained and are hereby reiterated as follows,--

Commencing at the southeast corner of the townsite of Butte Falls, Jackson County, Oregon, and running thence south 740 ft. to the north line of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Section 10, T. 35 south, range 2 east of W.M.; thence west along said

line 740 ft. to the northwest corner of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the said Section 10; thence south 380 ft.; thence west 2640 ft. to the East line of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the said Section 10; thence north along said line 3020 ft. to the southeast corner of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the said Section 10; thence north 560 ft., more or less, to the middle of Big Butte Creek; thence running in an Easterly direction up the Middle of Big Butte Creek to the west line of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the said Section 10; thence running south on said line 675 ft. more or less, to its intersection with the north line of Block 24, extended, of Butte Townsite; thence east 360 ft.; thence south 300 ft.; thence east 280 ft.; thence south 680 ft.; thence south 45 113.1 ft.; thence south 300 ft.; thence south 22 37' east 260 ft. to the place of beginning.

(Note--the remaining parts are in outline form)

Chapter Two

Power and Authority Where Vested

- Sec. 3--Power in Mayor and Town Council
- Sec. 4--Mayor elected 2 years
- Sec. 5--6 councilmen elected for 2 years; 3 elected each year
- Sec. 6--Treasurer and Recorder elected for 2 years
- Sec. 7--Remain in office until 2nd Tuesday in January
- Sec. 8--Mayor appoint, council approve, one marshall, one city engineer, one street commissioner, one health officer, and police officers required
- Sec. 9--Officers have residence for 6 months prior to election
- Sec. 10--Vacancies filled by majority vote
- Sec. 11--Ordinances at time of charter are still good
- Sec. 12--Indebtedness to Town is hereby legalized

Chapter Three

The Mayor, his Powers and Duties

- Sec. 13--supervise towns affairs and all officers and employees except council--preside over meetings, but do not vote unless a tie--call special meetings--appoint committee-men
- Sec. 14--sign Ordinances and can veto in 5 days

Chapter Four

Town Council, its Powers and Duties

- Sec. 15--majority is a quorum
- Sec. 16--First meeting select a chairman; preside in absence of the mayor
- Sec. 17--no compensation for Mayor and Councilmen
- Sec. 18--adopt rules governing its own proceedings and punish own members for disorderly conduct in its presence.
- Sec. 19--meetings--establish time and place; meet at least once a month; public
- Sec. 20--journal of proceedings
- Sec. 21--appoint recorder in his absence--receive compensation
- Sec. 22--no contract except by ordinance
all ordinances read "The Town of Butte Falls doth ordain as follows"
- Sec. 23--requires 2/3 vote over veto of Mayor to pass ordinance
- Sec. 24--can make Ordinances

Specific Powers

- (1.) Property tax, tax for improvement of streets, water, etc.
- (2.) Borrow money, issue warrants and bonds
- (3.) Improve streets and name and number them
- (4.) Prohibit filth
- (5.) Establish hospitals and be able to quarantine
- (6.) Property nuisance
- (7.) Fire limits and type buildings
- (8.) Fire department and company
- (9.) Water--sell and handle
- (10.) Lights
- (11.) Sewers, drains, gutters
- (12.) Condemn real property
- (13.) Regulate explosives
- (14.) Running at large of domestic animals
- (15.) Speed of trains, cars, horses, vehicles, locomotives
- (16.) Disorderly conduct
- (17.) No tractor on streets, bicycle on sidewalk
- (18.) Tax, license, and regulate drinking and dancing places
- (19.) No liquor for those under 21
- (20.) No liquor to those intoxicated
- (21.) Restrain bawdy houses
- (22.) Prohibit gambling
- (23.) Punish vagrancy
- (24.) Close saloons on Sundays

- 4
- (25.) License, tax and regulate peddlers.
 - (26.) License and tax businesses
 - (27.) Regulate sidewalks
 - (28.) Remove street obstructions
 - (29.) Control light; telephone wires in city
 - (30.) Control street car lines and fix fares
 - (31.) Provide town and special elections
 - (32.) Advisory board of equalization for town assessments
 - (33.) Sell real estate
 - (34.) License, tax, and regulate theaters
 - (35.) Regulate livestock in town
 - (36.) Collect and distribute money
 - (37.) Buildings for Town purposes
 - (38.) Punishment for violation of Town Ordinances
 - (39.) Regulate proceedings of recorder's court
 - (40.) Lighting and heating of town buildings
 - (41.) No franchise granted without consent of voters

Chapter Five

Other Officers--Their Duties and Powers

Recorder

- Sec. 25--Judicial Officer
- Sec. 26--Criminal proceedings governed by Oregon Laws
- Sec. 27--Ex-officio clerk of the Town Council--records proceedings
- Sec. 28--Fines given to Treasurer
- Sec. 29--Orders for payment of money--issue licenses
- Sec. 30--Record and sign all ordinances and resolutions
- Sec. 31--Keep track of money received and distributed
- Sec. 32--Keep track of all assessments for municipal taxes or betterment assessments
- Sec. 33--List of assessments
- Sec. 34--Absence for more than 5 days without consent--can dismiss
- Sec. 35--Record cash bails, etc.

Treasurer

- Sec. 36--Receive all money and keep safe--pay out on warrants
- Sec. 37--General fund and special fund
- Sec. 38--Deposit in the bank that the Council designates
- Sec. 39--Written report to Council every 3 months
- Sec. 40--Council designate any other duties they think necessary

Town Marshall

- Sec. 41--Appointed and removed as seen necessary
- Sec. 42--Ex-officio chief of police--conservator of peace--power to serve warrants
- Sec. 43--Arrest and take person s before city recorder
- Sec. 44--Put person in jail at night
- Sec. 45--Unlawful to permit person to escape or pay bail
- Sec. 46--Power to enter houses if he thinks necessary
- Sec. 47--Council can refuse to pay him if negligent of duty
- Sec. 48--Council prescribe other duties and funds
- Sec. 49--Act as Sergeant of Arms if necessary at meetings
- Sec. 50--Other officers regulated by Council
- Sec. 51--Faithfull duty of Recorder and Treasurer

Chapter Six

Elections

- Sec. 52--Not less than 15 days prior to Tuesday after first Monday in December--3 election judges
- Sec. 53--Laws of State of Oregon--Time of election
- Sec. 54--Resident 3 months to qualify to vote
- Sec. 55--7 days before the election file certificate of nomination with 15 signatures
- Sec. 56--Polls open 9am to 5 pm with break 1pm to 2 pm
- Sec. 57--Absence of judge filled
- Sec. 58--ballots counted immediately
- Sec. 59--Council canvass returns
- Sec. 60--New Council elect its own members when vacancy
- Sec. 61--Oath of Office
- Sec. 62--Hold first meeting on 2nd Tuesday of January
- Sec. 63--Council fill vacancies

Chapter Seven

- Sec. 64--Town tax not to exceed ten mills on the Dollar
- Sec. 65--Increase Bond of any Town Officer

Chapter Eight

Water-works, water-main, and sewers; electric lighting plant

- Sec. 66--Council control water-work
- Sec. 67--Council control lights
- Sec. 68--Council supervise laying of water main
- Sec. 69--Council power over sewers and drain
- Sec. 70--Council assess property benefited by sewer or drain
- Sec. 71--Extend sewer lines outside city--condemnation
- Sec. 72--Assess property for trunk watermain or trunk sewer

Chapter Nine

Bonds and Warrants

- Sec. 73--Council borrow money--bonds and warrants not exceed \$40,000--interest not to exceed 6% per annum
- Sec. 74--Council sell and issue bonds
- Sec. 75--Limited on Bonds

Chapter Ten

Streets, etc.

- Sec. 76--Council control streets
- Sec. 77--Assess property fronting streets for grading and improving

Chapter Eleven

Assessments

- Sec. 78--Assess property for water or sewage
- Sec. 79--4 copies of resolutions posted and meeting for protests
- Sec. 80--Protests on assessments
- Sec. 81--Contract for improvement
- Sec. 82--Town Lien Docket (a) description of property (b) owner (c) sum assessed
- Sec. 83--Town Lien Docket is a public writing
- Sec. 84--Not invalid for non-entry
- Sec. 85--Manner of collection of assessments
- Sec. 86--60 days after ordinance recorder makes records
- Sec. 87--Town Marshall action on property of delinquent assessment
- Sec. 88--Each property sold separately
- Sec. 89--Owner of property may redeem within 3 days
- Sec. 90--Purchaser becomes owner in 3 days
- Sec. 91--Recorder issue a certificate
- Sec. 92--Surplus money held by Treasurer
- Sec. 93--Proceedings in case sale is void
- Sec. 94--Council control sidewalks, streets, and alleys
- Sec. 95--Council repair streets

Chapter Twelve

Streets and Roads--Supervision

- Sec. 96--Streets, alleys under control of street commissioner
- Sec. 97--One-half mills tax for streets
- Sec. 98--Council provide for hiring men to work on streets, etc.
- Sec. 99--Council has power over county roads in its limits
- Sec. 100--"Record of Grades, Surveys, etc."

Chapter Thirteen

Watermain Bonds

- Sec. 101--Lay water mains; assess property
- Sec. 102--Recorder keep record of people wanting water
- Sec. 103--Procedure for unpaid water assessments; bonds for water
- Sec. 104--9 years payment for watermain by property owner
- Sec. 105--Sinking fund for Bond issued
- Sec. 106--Payments
- Sec. 107--Limitations of Bonds

Miscellaneous

- Sec. 108--Now contract over 10 years, no franchise unless voted
 - Sec. 109--Public utilities
 - Sec. 110--Power to regulate telegraph and telephone
 - Sec. 111--No witness fees paid to any person
 - Sec. 112--Duty of property owners for their sidewalks
 - Sec. 113--Witnesses
 - Sec. 114--Ayes and Nays recorded on any Ordinance
- Mayor---E.E. Smith
Submitted to voters in November 1911

Interview with Ernest Smith (Town Treasurer since 1951-- lived in Butte Falls most of his life--On the town council for several years--his father was the first mayor of the town)

What are the duties of the town treasurer?

The main function of the city treasurer is to keep records of receipts and expenditures. These are kept in a ledger book with a column for each. Along with these duties is the paying of bills. The town recorder writes out warrants for bills and the treasurer honors these by writing a check for the amount, and distributing these to the people.

The treasurer also has several minor functions such as keeping records of all money coming in or going out of city funds and depositing the cash. Also, he types up the budgets and keeps a record of these budgets.

Where does the town of Butte Falls get its money?

Most of the receipts are from water rent money which is currently three dollars(\$3) per month. The next largest income for the city is from Jackson County property tax. Other tax money for the sale of liquor is received from the State of Oregon according to the population of the town. Finally, money is received from the State Highway Commission for gasoline tax, license fees, etc.

Miscellaneous questions;

While on council, A.E. Edmondson (the mayor) and he proposed a new water tank which was erected several years later.

The city received electric lights in 1928.

The city had at one time a dog pound and a cattle pound.

Interview with A.E.(Guse) Edmondson(Past mayor and councilman of Butte Falls--lived in Butte Falls most of his life)

Who planned the town?

The town was planned after a pattern of Harvard, Illinois, the hometown of Mrs. Edmondson. A man from this town in Illinois copied its plans with a city park in the center of town.

What is the function and duty of the mayor?

The mayor calls any special meetings he deems necessary for some reason. He also makes suggestions to the council, but has no vote unless there is a tie. The cooperation between the mayor and the council means much towards getting "things" done. The mayor has several minor functions such as attending meetings for the mayors of towns.

Another important duty is to prepare the annual budget which is presented to the budget committee early in March. The budget committee, consisting of as many members as on council(Six in this case), alternate their membership with one, two, and three year terms. This committee discusses the budget and makes revisions they deem necessary, then they submit it to discussion, then a vote by the people of the town, after being posted 20 days. State law requires that the budget be sent in no later than July 15 with some cases of extension of this time.

How are ordinances proposed and voted on?

When the councilmen feel they need an ordinance to protect the citizens or for any other reason, they submit their proposal to the town attorney who drafts it. Then the ordinance

is brought to the meeting where the council can do one of two things. Either it can be voted on in a hurry with three readings at one meeting with 15 minute breaks or it can be voted on at three separate meetings with a reading by the town recorder at each meeting.

Mr. Edmondson also gave me some information about each of the early mayors as to the type work they were engaged in while living in Butte Falls.

Interview with N.B. Stoddard (Early councilman and mayor of town--one of the original committee to incorporate the town--came to Butte Falls in 1906--owned a hardware store since 1911)

How was the town incorporated?

He was one of the original committee along with Carson, Cadzow, Watson, M. Baker, and Red Baker who started the incorporation. They fought with the people who owned the Butte Falls Lumber Company in court in Medford with an attorney for each side. The Lumber Co. was afraid that it would raise their taxes if they were included in the town. It was agreed that the Lumber Co. located at the falls would be outside the town limits. After a short battle the judge decided to let the town incorporate.

Do you know anything about the early water system?

There was also a fight over the water rights for the town, between them and the Pacific and Eastern Railroad and the Butte Falls Lumber Company. It seems that the town filed water rights just two hours before the other side did. The water system was put in about 1912.

Who mapped out the town?

Bert Harris in about 1906 laid out the town. Later in 1908 he was instrumental in the building of the Grade School.

Miscellaneous;

Jail was built about 1914-1915 and was well fixed inside.

The town put in electric lights in 1928 after the school decided to get electricity from the mill at the falls.

Murry-Greene Abstract Company Medford, Oregon

Abstract to Elga Abbotts Property in Butte Falls, Oregon

Lot Two(2) in Block Twenty-six(26) Bluff Addition to Town of Butte Falls, Oregon.

Following are some of the interesting things taken from this abstract.

In the United States District Court for the District of Oregon
October 5, 1907: By order of Hon Chas. Wolverton, Judge of
said Court, the Butte Falls Sugar Pine Lumber Company, a
corporation of Oregon, is declared bankrupt.

May 20, 1907--Articles of Incorporation of the Pine Belt
Banking Company. W.C. Morris, S.W. Stryker, and George Estes.

1928--Articles of Incorporation of the First National Company
B.E. Harder, Oris Crawford, and Porter J. Neff.